(d) the measures taken to ensure that this type of scandal does not occur in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) to (c) No, Sir, CBI, however registered a case in November, 1988 against M/s. Punjab Phosphate Private Limited, Chherahta, Amritsar and 33 others. It was alleged that the Central Government subsidy amounting to about Rs. 3.38 crores for the period December, 1980 to April, 1987 was claimed on the basis of bogus documents without manufacturing any Single Super Phosphate (SSP) fertilizer.

In the case registered, a number of Government officials have also been accused. The case is at the final stage of investigation.

(d) Payment of subsidy is made to the units after scrutinising their claims furnished in the prescribed proformae duly certified by the Chartered Accountant. The new units of SSP are inspected jointly by the officials of Fertilizer Industry Coordination Committee (FICC) and representatives of the Directorates of Agriculture and Industries of the concerned State Government before including them in the scheme of Retention Price and Subsidy.

Cases of irregular functioning of SSP units are referred to the concerned State Governments for joint inspection by officials of the Directorate of Agriculture and Industries. Besides, inspections of SSP and other units are also conducted by the officials of FICC. 146 such inspections have been conducted from 1987 till date.

[Translation]

Documentary Film on Ahmadnagar Fort

3799. SHRI YASHWANTRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to make a documentary film on the occasion of the fifth centenary of Ahmadnagar Fort to be celebrated this year in view of its historical importance:

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) No Sir. There is no proposal under the consideration of the Government for production of a documentary on Ahmadnagar Fort on the occasion.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting produce documentaries through Films Division on various topics of national importance within the budgetary allocation. Films Division also undertake production of documentary/short films on different subjects as and when these are sponsored by various Central Government Departments, State Governments and Public Sector Undertakings when the funds are placed at their disposal. No specific proposal for production of a film on Ahmadnagar Fort has been received.

[English]

Coastal and Offshore Activities

3800. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a great need to increase the coastal and offshore activities to harness some of the untapped resources of the vast seas around India;

(b) if so, the plans drawn up in this regard; and

(c) the amount earmarked for launching such activities during the Eighth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) to (c) As various Ministries are involved in this activity information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Utilisation of European Space Agency Satellite

3801. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had a proposal to utilise European Space Agency (ERS) Satellite for development of data on ocean and coastal parameters:

(b) if so, whether the strategies pertaining to such programme have been finalised; and

(c) if so, the time by which such ERS satellite is proposed to be utilised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An agreement has been signed between the National Remote Sensing Agency (NRSA), Hyderabad, of the Department of Space (DOS) and the European Space Agency (ESA) for receiving, processing and distributing data from the Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) instrument on the European Remote Sensing Satellite (ERS-1) on an experimental basis for ocean, coastal and also land applications. The National Remote Sensing Agency has already geared up its facilities towards this. The Department of Space has taken up a programme on the ocean applications jointly with the Department of Ocean Development (DOD) for exploiting the data from ERS-1 along with that from the Indian Remote Sensing Satellites.

(c) The plans are to utilise ERS-1 data by the last quarter of 1991, as soon as they are available and establish their potential for application to the development of land, water and ocean resources.

[*Translation*]

Approval to Mahi Irrigation Project of Bihar

3802. SHRI RAM SARAN YADAV: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission has approved the Mahi Irrigation Project of Bihar: and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Allocation of Essential Consumer Items to Rajasthan at Cheaper Rates

3804. SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of essential consumer items allocated at cheaper rates to Rajasthan during the last three years, year-wise:

(b) the quota lifted by the State Government, year-wise; and

(c) whether these items were allocated in time; if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) and (b) The Central Government incurs a substantial amount as subsidy in supplying foodgrains